Increasing the power generation capacity

†257. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the capacity of the Power Generation Centres is decreasing in the country at present;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the measures being taken by the Government to increase the Power Generation Capacity of these Centres?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The following measures have been taken by the Government to increase the generation capacity of power generation centres:

(i) Time bound programme for Renovation & Modernization of Thermal Power Stations.

(ii) Overall increase in Plant Load Factor of Thermal Units.

(iii) Load Management and staggering of weekly off and recess hours.

(iv) Renovation & Modernization of hydro electric power stations in the country.

Financial assistance to ongoing projects of NTPC

258. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not giving proper financial assistance to National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for ongoing projects in the country and abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the expansion programme of NTPC during the next fiscal year?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) NTPC has not sought any budgetary support for its ongoing projects.

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) NTPC's target for capacity addition during the next fiscal, *i.e.* 2005-06 is 2000 MW (comprising 500 MW from Ramagundam Stage-III (1 X 500 MW); 500 MW first unit of Rihand STPP Stage-II (2 X 500 MW) and 1000 MW from two units (Nos. 5 & 6) of Talcher Stage-II (5 X 500 MW). However, these units have already been commissioned ahead of schedule in the year 2004-05. NTPC, therefore, plans to add 500 MW capacity in the next fiscal, i.e. 2005-06 by commissioning 2nd Unit of Rihand Stage-II (2 X 500 MW) ahead of the schedule of May, 2006.

Power purchasing agreement between Government of Kerala and NTPC

259. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is/was an agreement with the Government of Kerala regarding the purchase of power from National Thermal Power Corporation located at Kayamkulam;

(b) if so, the details including the period of agreement and the cost to be paid to NTPC per unit power and the cost to be paid for the same unit of hydroelectric power purchased by the Government of Kerala from other sources;

(c) whether steps will be taken to provide power to Kerala with a cost comparable to that of hydroelectric power;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. There is a power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Kerala Sate Electricity Board (KSEB) for supply of power from NTPC's Kayamkulam Station (360 MW) which has been valid till 28th February, 2005. As per the provisions of PPA, NTPC has already taken up with KSEB from extension of PPA beyond 28.02.2005.

Two-part tariff is followed for Kayamkulam station as per Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC) norms, and as such fixed charge and variable charges have to be paid. As per CERC regulations, the fixed